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C/O Freedom- Unlimited 2201 Wylie Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15219

412-758-7898

September 24, 2019

Hon. Bill Peduto, Mayor
City of Pittsburgh
512 City-County Building
414 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Wendell Hissrich, Director of Public Safety
City of Pittsburgh
516 City-County Building
414 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Scott Schubert, Chief
Pittsburgh Bureau of Police
1203 Western Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15233

Dear Mayor Peduto, Safety Director Hissrich & Chief Schubert:

The decision to charge only three of the four men involved in the beating of the two African American women at the Marshall Avenue Exxon gas station, and then to only charge these three men with a misdemeanor 2 and simple assault has enraged many citizens of Pittsburgh. The Black Political Empowerment Project (B-PEP) and the Greater Pittsburgh Coalition Against Violence (CAV) join with others in viewing the decision of District Attorney Stephen A. Zappalla, Jr. as a slap in the face to Black women and can only wonder what he would have charged if the women assaulted had been members of *his* family. In our opinion this situation calls out for justice. One of these women was thrown against a gas pump, if that act was not a form of reckless endangerment and aggravated assault, what would be???

We ask that the three of you immediately intervene to have the charges elevated to aggravated assault and reckless endangerment. The community is depending on you to do what it right.

It's a LIFETIME COMMITMENT...
African Americans VOTE in EACH and EVERY election!!"
Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the 1965 Voting Rights Act.

Email: b-pepinfo@b-pep.net
Website: www.b-pep.net

We look forward to your attention to this very important matter.

Sincerely,

Tim Stevens

Tim Stevens, Chairman & CEO

The Black Political Empowerment Project (B-PEP)

Co-convener, Greater Pittsburgh Coalition Against Violence (CAV)

412-758-7898

cc: Dan Gilman; Asst. Chief Bickerstaff; Richard A. Stewart, Jr., NAACP Pittsburgh Unit; Esther L. Bush, Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh; Brandi Fisher, Alliance for Police Accountability; Khalid Raheem; English Burton, Northside Partnership Project; Area Media

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